



**The 1st Sunday of Christmas
Christmas Lessons and Carols
December 27, 2020
9:00am**

Prelude

Corelli Christmas concerto, mvt. 2

Welcome

Carols

*O Holy Night
The Angel Gabriel*

Michael Larkin and John Helgren
St. James' Choir
Hymnal 265

Bidding Prayer

Dear People of God: In this Christmas Season, let it be our duty and delight to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child, Jesus, and let us make this world glad with our carols of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in this region. I invite your prayers for peace and justice and for the Church _____.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ. I invite your prayers for all those in any kind of need _____.

Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore. I invite your prayers for the saints who have died _____.

The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above, may the King of Angels bring us all. *Amen.*

Carol

Mary Did You Know?

Laura and Kristina Abbott

Lesson

John 1: 1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has

come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

Carol *O Come All Ye Faithful* Hymnal 83

Lesson **John 1: 6-8**

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

Carol *Hallelujah Light Has Come* Brian and Beckie Hidy

Lesson **John 1: 9-13**

The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

Carol *What Child is This?* Hymnal 115

Lesson **John 1: 14-15**

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'")

Carol *Silent Night* St. James' Worship Band

Lesson **John 1: 16-18**

From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Carol *Hark the Herald Angels Sing* Hymnal 87

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers for the New Year

Leader

Rejoicing in the good news of Christ's birth and dwelling in hope, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

Blessed Jesus, your name is proclaimed through preaching, sacraments, music, art, and all forms of creativity. Bring together congregations and leaders in all churches, to make you known. **Lord of all, hear our prayer.**

